

**FILED BY THE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

2/26/01

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

In the Matter of	:	
	:	Administrative Action
DEBORAH ANN BROWN CSW	:	
	:	
Licensed to Practice Social Work:	:	CONSENT ORDER
in the State of New Jersey	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners ("the Board") upon its review of the 2000-2002 renewal application of Deborah Ann Brown ("respondent"), a Certified Social Worker ("CSW") wherein she affirmatively answered a question concerning conviction of a crime. Responding to an inquiry from the Board, respondent disclosed that on October 28, 1999 a Judgment of Conviction was entered against her in Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County, Law Division-Criminal. Respondent had plead guilty to Official Misconduct in the 3rd

degree, and had been ordered to three years of probation and restitution in the amount of \$1,108.00. The facts underlying the conviction involve the theft of funds by respondent from the Mercer County Division of Youth and Family Services District Office.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the documentation supplied by respondent, it appears to the Board that Respondent has engaged in the employment of dishonesty and fraud in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude and relating adversely to her certification as a social worker in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (f), and said conduct is the basis of a suspension of respondent's social work certification.

It appearing that the respondent desires to resolve this matter without resort to formal disciplinary proceedings and that good cause exists for the entry of the within Order,

IT IS ON THIS 26th DAY OF February 2001,
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent's certification to practice social work in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for a period of five years commencing upon the entry of the within Consent Order. The first two years of the suspension shall be active, and the remaining three years shall be stayed and shall serve as a period of probation conditioned upon full compliance with the terms of the

within Consent Order and the statutes and regulations of the State of New Jersey governing the practice of social work.

2. Upon respondent's signing of the within Consent Order, respondent shall immediately return by registered mail her New Jersey certification to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.


3. The active suspension of respondent's certification to practice social work means that respondent shall not hold herself out as a social worker or practice social work in this State or any other state, including but not limited to, exempt settings as defined in N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-5.

4. Respondent shall successfully complete twenty (20) hours of continuing education concerning ethics which courses shall be completed during the active two years of the suspension. Prior to taking the course/courses, respondent shall write to the Board for approval of the course/courses, and receive written approval by the Board. Respondent shall also be required to submit to the Board written proof of successful completion of the required course work.


5. Prior to reinstatement, respondent shall appear before the Board to demonstrate her ability and fitness to practice social work in the State of New Jersey. The Board reserves the right to decline to reinstate or to impose such restrictions or limitations as it may deem necessary during the remaining suspension period.

6. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for having engaged in the employment of dishonesty and fraud in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and having been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude and relating adversely to her certification as a social worker in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (f). Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Respondent shall pay the above penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00 in twenty monthly installments with each installment being in the amount of \$100.00. The first payment shall be due by March 15, 2001, and all subsequent payments are due every month on or before the fifteenth day of the month until the total amount is paid. If any payment is not timely, the full amount shall become immediately due and payable.

STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS


Mariagnes Lattimer, MSW, LCSW
President

I have read the within Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Order's terms.


Deborah Ann Brown, CSW